

January 29, 1958.

THE EDITORS
The Journal of Biological Chemistry
Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut

Gentlemen:

The enclosed manuscripts have been revised to incorporate the "specific suggestions" made in your letter of January 24.

Your letter - last sentence of page 1 - states that there is "no experimental evidence to prove the presence of DNA molecules not previously added as primer. The numerous editors and referees have failed to read or understand the data in Table III (paper 2) which show a 100 per cent net synthesis of DNA, and the unequivocal statement in the text that in other experiments net synthesis of 3 to 4 times the added DNA was observed. On the private advice of two members of the Editorial Board, we are now adding more recent data to this table showing net increases of DNA of up to 20 times that of the added primer. To put it another way, 90 to 95 per cent of the DNA isolated at the end of the reaction is derived from the deoxynucleoside triphosphate substrates. This DNA is indistinguishable from DNA derived from natural sources. A statement amplifying the one to this effect in the Discussion of paper 2 has now been appended as a footnote.

The enclosed manuscripts are in the form in which we wish to have them published. If you do not find them acceptable without further revision, we would like to withdraw them from your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

AK/McK

Arthur Kornberg.

Encls.:

2 Manuscripts.